

Further, the examiner would modify the teachings of Etori in such a way that the element of Etori et al would become unsuitable for its intended purpose. As taught by Etori et al at column 3, lines 13-18, in their “front scattering film” the particles should not project from the film surface and, indeed, the structure disclosed by Etori et al is designed so as not to have particles projecting from the film surface.

Finally, it is respectfully submitted that, even if *prima facie* combinable, the combined reference teachings would not suggest the combination of excellent light diffusion (a haze of at least 80%) and light transmission of at least 70%. As noted at page 2, lines 15-18, high light diffusion and high light transmission, as required by claim 1, are regarded as “contradictory properties.” The references of record do not suggest such a combination. For example, the examiner notes that Etori teaches that their “front scattering film” has a haze of 30% or more. However, a teaching of 30% or more is not suggestive of 80% or more. Regardless, is the combination of high light transmission and high haze which characterizes the present invention, i.e., a light diffusion sheet which does not require “an expensive prism sheet” to provide high luminance in the front direction. See column 2, lines 8-13 of applicants’ specification. In connection with this latter point note that Toshima et al contemplate use of their “optical film” “in combination with another optical material such as a prism lens,” quoting from the last two lines of the abstract.

In conclusion, it is respectfully requested that the examiner reconsider the rejections of record with a view toward allowance of the three pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please rewrite the paragraph at page 2, lines 8-13 as follows:

–Accordingly, an object of the present invention is to provide a light diffusion sheet that has [is] high luminance in the front direction, is excellent in light-diffusing property, does not require use of an expensive prism sheet which is readily susceptible to surface damage, and does not require careful handling.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please rewrite claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A light diffusion sheet having opposing exposed surfaces and comprising a light diffusion layer formed on a transparent substrate and containing a binder resin and resin particles that impart unevenness to one of said exposed surfaces [an uneven surface], wherein the light diffusion sheet has a total light transmission of 70.0% or more, haze of 80.0% or more, and a distinctness of transmission image of 25.0% or more.